



Making Tracks
Missouri Department of Conservation
2360 Hwy D
St. Charles, MO 63304
www.conservation.state.mo.us

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MO DEPT OF CONSERVATION



August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area
Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center
Rockwoods Reservation



Kids Fishing Fair

Saturday, May 18, 2002
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Busch Conservation Area invites you to attend Kids Fishing Fair! Lakes 1, 2 and 15 will be open for kids ages 15 and under, to try their hand at fishing. MDC staff will be at the lakes to help kids with baiting hooks, casting, catching and landing their fish. Visit stations where the whole family can learn about filleting and cooking fish, casting, tying knots, baiting hooks, boating safety, catch-and-release fishing, fly tying and more. Please bring your own equipment and bait. Each child will receive a free fishing goody bag. Some parking is available at Lakes 1, 2 and 15. A shuttle will be available to bring families from the main parking lot to the lakes. For more information, call (636) 441-4554.



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Making Tracks

April 2002

Making Tracks

Editor:

Holly Berthold

Metro Media Specialist

Layout and Distribution:

Rene Parker

Public Service Assistant

Feature Article:

Mark Grueber

Urban Forester

Interpretive Programs Supervisor, Busch:

Rhonda Anderson

Interpretive Programs Supervisor, Powder Valley:

Janice Starke

Volunteer Coordinator, Powder Valley:

Cindy Bruns

Interpretive Programs Supervisor, Rockwoods:

Tom Meister

Volunteer Milestones

*Thanks for all your
effort and help!*

Powder Valley Nature Center

Bob Anderson.....2000 hours
Tom Bayer.....500 hours
Liz McCane.....2000 hours
Ron Pohlé.....700 hours
David Winkler.....500 hours
Marjorie Yamada..2300 hours
Ed Liesenfeld.....100 hours

Busch Conservation Area

Al Newman.....1400 hours

Rockwoods Reservation

Kate Edwards.....1700 hours
Karen Kelly.....3000 hours
Matt Kouzes.....200 hours
LaVerne Koyn.....900 hours
Sally Roberts.....500 hours
George Triplett.....2000 hours

As a forester, Arbor Day is near and dear to my heart. Unfortunately, as I share my enthusiasm about Arbor Day, I tend to get that telltale smirk in response that seems to say: "Is this guy really serious?"

Now don't get me wrong, that smirk doesn't offend me but sometimes I wish that we'd give the day a little more thought. Arbor Day is more than just a day to plant trees. It's a day to celebrate how important trees are as a natural resource. Why should we feel embarrassed about that?

Maybe a little history about Arbor Day would help:

The first Arbor Day was celebrated in the state of Nebraska in 1872 in response to a state proclamation urging settlers and homesteaders to plant trees that would provide shade, shelter, fruit, fuel and beauty for residents of the largely treeless plains. The Arbor Day idea was promoted by J. Sterling Morton, editor of the *Nebraska City News*, who later helped the idea spread to neighboring states and eventually to all of the United States and many other nations. On that first Arbor Day, more than one million trees were planted in Nebraska's communities and on its farms.

Today, Arbor Day celebrations are held in communities all over America, with the date determined by the best tree planting times in each area. In Missouri, we celebrate Arbor Day on the first Friday of April. We also understand that maybe the "treeless plains" were meant to be that way and trees may not be appropriate for the area.

Happy Arbor Day!



*by Mark Grueber,
Urban Forester*

The focus of Arbor Day has evolved to trees as part of communities in which we live. Most of us understand that trees are more than just ornaments, they are a vital part of the infrastructure of a community. Their effects on property values, the tourism industry, storm water control and filtration of pollutants give us real dollar benefits that can be measured. Communities with good community forestry programs try to achieve "Tree City USA" status. This award is given by The National Arbor Day Foundation to communities that provide proper maintenance and care of their community forest and, of course, hold an Arbor Day celebration!

You probably live in a community that proudly displays its status as a Tree City USA. Almost half of the communities with Tree City USA status in Missouri are located in St. Louis, St. Charles, or Jefferson counties, and two more will be added this year! If you're unsure whether your community is a Tree City USA or has an Arbor Day event, contacting your city hall or parks department is a great place to start. You may also contact your local Missouri Department of Conservation urban forester.

And remember, Arbor Day is about . . . well, I don't think anyone has said it better than J. Sterling Morton himself:

"Each generation takes the Earth as trustees. We ought to bequeath to posterity as many forests and orchards as we have exhausted and consumed."



News from

Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center

Naturescaping Symposium

Saturday, April 13, 2002
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Your yard can be a beautiful place for you to enjoy as well as great habitat for your wildlife neighbors. This symposium will give you ideas and information on how to landscape your yard using native plant species and natural techniques. Judy Allmon, Program Coordinator for Grow Native!, will introduce this Missouri Department of Conservation program. She and other guest speakers will discuss how you can use native seeds, plants, shrubs, vines and trees to benefit birds, butterflies, reptiles and small mammals.

Reservation forms will be available on and after March 15.
Please call (314) 301-1500 to request a form or for more information.

Earth Day - It's Elemental

Saturday, April 20, 2002
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Earth Day at Powder Valley is elemental! Those elements are food, water and space – all the things that add up to good habitat for wildlife in your community. We'll explore the importance of good habitat in our communities through on-going activities, crafts, displays and take-home information. This day will appeal to kids as well as adults. Please call (314) 301-1500 for more information.

No reservations are necessary!

A Spring Birding Festival

Saturday, April 20, 2002
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Spring has arrived and more migrant song birds are pouring in each day. The stunning beauty of these tiny migrants can be breathtaking, and has made birdwatching one of the fastest growing outdoor activities in America today. Join us for this special program which is the seventh joint effort of the St. Louis Audubon Society and Powder Valley Nature Center.

We will share a superb video providing extreme closeup views and sounds of many beautiful birds. Numerous tips and suggestions are provided in the video defining what details to observe when starting to identify birds. Also, the best nearby locations to find these migrant birds will be illustrated. Several handouts will be available, and upcoming bird walks will be announced.

No reservations necessary!

Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center Nature Films For April

April 6 & 7

Sorry, there will be no films.

April 13 & 14

(Films shown in Classrooms A & B on the 13th; Films shown only on the morning of the 14th in the auditorium.)

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Eyewitness: Bird

Eyewitness: Butterfly & Moth

11:00 a.m. - Noon & 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Return of the Wild Turkey

The Family Life of Birds

April 20 & 21

(Films only in the morning on the 20th)

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Bugz; Critter Rock

11:00 a.m. - Noon & 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Best of Missouri Outdoors 2

Shannon County

April 27 & 28

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The Nature Connection:

Tide Pools & Cattail County

11:00 a.m. - Noon & 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

America's Wetlands; Headwaters

Shown in Auditorium - Free of Charge - Groups Welcome!

Children's films 10-11 a.m. & 1-2 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday

All Ages films 11 a.m.-Noon & 2-3 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday

Films are subject to change.

No reservations necessary.

11715 Cragwold Road
Kirkwood, MO 63122
(314) 301 - 1500

LOCATION:

From I-44 east in Kirkwood, take Watson Road, exit and turn north on Geyer Road. Follow Geyer Road 200 yards to Cragwold Road. Go 1 mile west on Cragwold Road.

AREA HOURS:

Daylight Saving Time:
8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Central Standard Time:
8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

NATURE CENTER HOURS:

Open all year, 7 days a week, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

GIFT SHOP HOURS:

Open all year, 7 days a week, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ABOUT THE AREA:

112 acres of forestland and winding creeks, three hiking trails (one wheelchair accessible). Open to visitors free of charge.

CHECK OUT THE NEW
CHILDREN'S BOOK
IN OUR
GIFT SHOP

KIDS GONE
FISHIN'
*The Young Angler's
Guide to Catching
More and Bigger Fish*



The Educators' Niche

by Nancy Snider, Education Consultant

Spring Wildflowers

Spring is a wonderful time to take your children on a hike in search of colors, shapes and textures. Wildflowers are bursting into bloom and provide opportunities for children and adults to investigate the variety of colors and shapes that nature provides.

Spring is also a great time to have your children start a journal. You may purchase journals or create your own. As you walk through the woods give children time to draw what they see. If they are old enough to write, have them describe what they see in words. Can they create a poem, story, or joke about what they see? Don't worry if you don't know the names of the flowers! Let children create their own names. As their sense of curiosity increases they may wish to discover the names of the plants. Stop in at a MDC office for the free pamphlet *Common Spring Wildflowers of Woods and Prairies*. See if your children can match the pictures in the pamphlet to flowers they see on their hike. You might also want to pick up the *Poison Ivy* pamphlet. Make sure you and your children can recognize poison ivy before you touch any plant. Simple field guides like the *Golden Guide to the Wildflowers* and *Peterson First Guide to Wildflowers* can be purchased at book stores and are a great way to start identifying flowers. As your skills progress try guides like *Missouri Wildflowers* which may be purchased at MDC gift shops. Joining a Naturalist for a spring wildflower walk (see pages 4 & 5) is also a great way to begin discovering our amazing native plants.

As you become more excited about wildflowers, try your hand at growing them at home. Our native plants are not only beautiful but hardy to Missouri growing conditions. To find out more about growing native plants check out the **GROW NATIVE!** program, sponsored by the Missouri Department of Conservation. Grow Native! can be found by accessing their web site: www.conservation.state.mo.us/program/grownative. Many local nurseries sell native plants. Shaw Nature Reserve in Gray Summit, Missouri, will hold their annual wildflower sale from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on May 11, 2002. This event attracts many native plant growers who offer a wide variety of plants for sale.

DO REMEMBER to look, touch and smell the flowers, but please leave them for others to enjoy!

Fun Hikes to take in the Spring!

First you may want to purchase or make a clipboard. To make a simple clipboard cut out the back (or front) of a cereal box and tape paper to it. Or you may want to use a journal. Give children a zip lock bag of crayons or colored pencils and you're ready to hit the trail.

Color Hikes

Draw different colored squares down one side of a sheet of paper. Attach the paper to a "clipboard." As you take a hike have the children make a mark by the color they see each time they see it. At the end of the hike ask them how many times they saw the color white, blue. This could also be done with large squared graph paper so that the children will have a color graph when they finish the hike.

Pass out paint samples before beginning the walk. Challenge children to find natural items that are the same color as their paint chips.

Texture Hike

Assign your children a texture to explore. For example, look for smooth, hard or soft items. Draw the item that fits with the texture they found.

Shape Hike

Draw different shapes down the side of a sheet of paper. Have the children make a mark each time they see the shape.

The following website was missing from the article "Learning An Outdoor Skill Will Enhance Your Outdoor Adventures" in the March issue of *Making Tracks*: www.missouriconservation.org. You can also receive copies of the curriculum mentioned in the article by requesting a "Conservation Education Materials Request Form" from any of our local MDC offices.

The Outdoor Teacher Education Resource Center

Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(closed 11:00 - Noon for lunch)
1926 S. 12th St.
St. Louis, MO 63104
(314) 231-3803



BUSCH RANGE

Hours for April 2002:

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Friday - Tuesday

Closed Wednesday & Thursday

For more information,
call 636.441.4554 ext. 251

HENGES RANGE

Hours for April 2002:

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Wednesday - Sunday

Closed Monday & Tuesday,
Special Events & Holidays

For more information,
call 636.938.9548



News from
August A. **Busch** Memorial Conservation Area

Using Fire to Manage Prairies

by John Vogel, Area Manager

Wildlife biologists and land managers all over the United States have ‘fire’ in their habitat management toolbox. Commonly referred to as prescribed burning or controlled burning, fire can be used to produce desirable effects in prairie habitat. Native Americans used fire on a regular basis to improve game habitat and increase nut and berry production. Today, fire is used in part due to its historical and natural roles, but also because it is less expensive than other management tools such as herbicides and mowing. Most often, fire is used in late winter and early spring to achieve the desired results, however, it can be used at almost any time of the year for different purposes.

Fire has many beneficial effects for the prairie: more plants flower and produce seed, the growing season can be increased for warm-season plants (prairie species), nutrients are added to the soil, and trees and shrubs are kept at bay. By burning off the plant litter, the dark soil is exposed to direct sunlight which results in faster soil warming. Prairie plants grow best in warm soil, so the sooner the soil warms up,

the faster the prairie can start growing each spring. The ash produced by the fire contains valuable nutrients that will be put back into the soil and used for the next growing season. Fire controls trees and shrubs by killing the parts that grow above ground, and also by stimulating prairie plants to form a thick sod that prevents new trees and shrubs from becoming established.

Wildlife species are rarely harmed during controlled fires. Most species are highly mobile and flee the approaching flames. The lush growth that takes place soon after a fire attracts several species of wildlife back to the area to feed. Deer are commonly seen feeding on the new plant growth that is nutrient rich. Within a few weeks, the vegetation is tall enough to provide some cover and, gradually, wildlife will begin to set up house in the prairie again.

So, if you are visiting a Conservation Area in the spring and see staff setting the prairie on fire, do not panic or call for help. We are just using one of Mother Nature’s tools to help us improve habitat for wildlife.



BUSCH SHOOTING RANGE

Please call (636) 441-4554 to register

Youth Turkey Hunting Clinic & Hunt

Clinic: Sunday, April 7, 2002

8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Hunt: Saturday, April 13, 2002

Each year more than 63,000 Missouri youths go hunting. To meet the demand for introductory youth hunting opportunities the National Wild Turkey Federation and the Missouri Department of Conservation developed this program. Program topics include Missouri turkey hunting regulations, firearms safety, safe turkey hunting tips, turkey biology and habitat, turkey calling and turkey hunting techniques, and shotgun patterning.

*Participants must be Hunter Education Certified
No Fee/Pre-Registration Required
Limited to 30 youths, age 15 and younger*



**2360 Highway D
St. Charles, MO
63304
(636) 441 - 4554**

LOCATION:

From Hwy 40, take 94 south to Hwy D; turn west on D for approx. 1 mile.

From I-70, take 94/First Capitol exit; turn south on Hwy 94 to Hwy D; turn west on D for approx. 1 mile. The area entrance is on the north side of Hwy D.

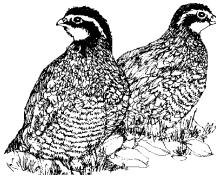
HOURS:

Area is open from 6 a.m. until 10 p.m. See area regulations for special hunt hours. Fishing hours are from 6 a.m. until 9 p.m. Rental boats are available April 1 through September 30. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. It is closed some state holidays.

ABOUT THE AREA:

6,987 acres with 32 lakes and 40 ponds totaling 526 acres of water for fishing. There are six viewing blinds (two are wheelchair accessible), seven hiking trails totaling 5 miles, picnic area, staffed firearms range, and fishing jetties (some are wheelchair accessible). The area has interpretive programs, exhibits, demonstration sites and is used by bicyclists.

News from
Rockwoods Reservation



What’s Your Sign?

Birds, Babies, Bugs, Flowers, Fish.....

by Tom Meister, Interpretive Programs Supervisor

*The signs of spring are springing out everywhere,
what is your favorite sign of spring?*

Spring peepers peeping. Spring beauty blooming. Bobwhite quails calling. Rose verbena and bird’s-foot violet blooming. Robins and other backyard birds building nests. Elms scattering seeds. Arbor Day. Ospreys’ spring migration. Luna moths fluttering around lights at night. White trillium blooming. Kingfishers arrive, calling along streams. Smallmouth and large-mouth bass spawning. Wild turkeys gobbling. Tent caterpillars appear. Bloodroot blooming. White pelicans migrating through. Redhorse suckers shoaling. Sedges blooming. Greater prairie-chickens courtship displaying. Common morel mushrooms popping up. Copperheads leaving their dens. Earth Day. Maple squirts falling. Honeybees swarming. Canada goose hatchlings. Painted turtles basking in the sun. Pawpaws blooming. American toads calling. Daylight-saving time. Ruffed grouse drumming. Dutchman’s breeches blooming. Beaver, coyotes, mink, bearing young. Dogwoods blooming. Warbler migration. Carp and crappie spawning. June bugs. Egrets nesting in heronries. Wake robin blooming. Turtles crossing the road. Orioles, hummingbirds, Indigo buntings arriving. Juncos departing. Oak and hickories blooming. Whip-poor-wills calling.

These signs from the April page of the Missouri Department of Conservation 2002 Natural Events calendar are just a sampling of the many signs of spring that are showing up all over this awesome state of ours. Join us for programs exploring the signs of spring this month: *Spring Wildflower walks, Amphibian Night, Build a Hummingbird Feeder, Tree Treasures-Plant a Tree(Arbor Day), Wild Edibles*. Check out pages 4 & 5 for more information and details.



Going for Blood(root)

by Kathy Thiele, Naturalist

I remember as a kid, a looooong time ago, exploring the woods with my cousin and digging in the dirt with a stick (for who knows what). The stick broke and sent my hand smashing into the ground. When I looked at my hand I saw blood. Now I’m one of those people who tend to faint at the sight or even thought of bleeding, so this was serious. But on closer inspection, I noticed I wasn’t hurt. The skin wasn’t even broken. So where did the blood come from? From a “bloody” plant - a plant by the name of “bloodroot.”

American Indians used the juice to paint their faces as well as baskets, weapons and tools. Colonists as well as American Indians used it as a dye for clothing. This reddish-orange dye was so popular it was even shipped to the French for dyeing cloth.

Today, herbalists still tout bloodroot’s uses for skin ailments, among other things. Scientifically speaking, there is still much research to be done, but scientists are hopeful that some of the constituents of bloodroot will prove useful for treating many diseases including brain tumors. All this is promising but believe it or not, bloodroot’s chief modern use has little to do with blood. It has to do with teeth. A constituent of bloodroot, Sanguinarine, is actually a terrific plaque-fighter and could be as important to fighting gum disease as fluoride is to preventing cavities.

Bloodroot is one of the first flowers of spring, a welcome sight after the long winter. The flowers are delicate and may only last a day or two before being dropped by wind or rain. Don’t miss it! Grab your field guide, go to your favorite woodland trail and.....

GO FOR BLOOD!



**2751 Glencoe Road
Wildwood,MO 63038
(636) 458 - 2236**

LOCATION:

From I-44, take Hwy 109 (Eureka exit) north 4 miles to Woods Avenue; left on Woods Avenue, and then immediately right on Glencoe Road; follow signs.

From Hwy 40 (I-64), take Clarkson Road south to Manchester Road; right (west) on Manchester to Hwy 109; left (south) on Highway 109, 2 miles to Woods Avenue; right on Woods Avenue, and then immediately right on Glencoe Road; follow signs.

From Manchester Road, take Hwy 109 south 2 miles to Woods Avenue; right on Woods Avenue, and immediately right on Glencoe Road; follow signs.

AREA HOURS:

Sunrise until 1/2 hour after sunset.

VISITOR CENTER HOURS:

Open seven days a week all year, except holidays, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ABOUT THE AREA:

All facilities are free to the public including:

- *Education Center with exhibits and interpretive programs.
- *1,898 acres of rugged, mostly hardwood forested land interspersed with springs and streams.
- *Two picnic areas (one with charcoal grills) with drinking water, tables, and toilets.
- *Seven trails (one is self-guided and wheelchair accessible) totaling more than 10 miles.

How to register for an

APRIL Program

Reservations are required unless otherwise specified. Reservations will be taken Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Programs are intended for individuals and families only. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel your reservation as a courtesy to those on our waiting list. Please limit requests to two programs per month, with only one to include an Ages 3-6 program. **Please be prompt. Arrival after 10 minutes may exclude you from the program.** Interpreting services are available for people with hearing loss with five days advance notice.

ROCKWOODS

For reservations, call (636) 458-2236

5 Tree Treasures

Homeschool Special

Friday 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
(Ages 8 & up) Join us in planting trees in our arboretum for Arbor Day. You will then get to take home a seedling to celebrate this tremendous holiday! Please bring a shovel and dress for the weather. (Reservations begin March 22.)

10 Wild Edibles

Wednesday 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

(Ages 7 & up) Wildflowers are not only beautiful but tasty and nutritious. Join us as we discover our wild spring edibles. Dress for the weather and bring adventurous taste buds! (Reservations begin March 27.)

12 Amphibian Night at Forest 44

Friday 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
(Families) Join MDC Herpetologist Jeff Briggler, for a fun-filled evening learning about frogs, toads and salamanders. The program starts off indoors with a presentation from Jeff and then we travel outside in search of amphibians! (Reservations begin April 1.)

13 Attracting Hummingbirds

Build A Feeder

Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
(Families) Learn about these tiny jewels of the sky and how to make a feeder (one per family) to take home. Please bring a 16 oz. plastic water or soda bottle. (Reservations begin April 1.)

13 Spring Wildflower Walk

Saturday 10:00 a.m. - Noon
(Families) Join us as we walk the awesome trails of Rockwoods in search of spring wildflowers. (Reservations begin April 1.)

16 Toddling Into Nature: Frogs and Friends

Tuesday 10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. & 1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
(Ages 3-6) Get to know your slimy friends up close and personal. Please dress for the weather - weather dependent we will take a trip to visit our frogs and friends at their home Rockwoods Pond! (Reservations begin April 2.)

20 Scout Discovery Table Poisonous Things

Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
(Junior Girl Scouts, Wolves and Webelos) Attention Scouts! What's the difference between "poisonous" and "venomous?" How many different venomous snakes are there in Missouri? What does poison ivy look like? What spider has a fiddle on its back? Learn the answers to these questions and many more. (No reservations necessary.)

27 Spring Wildflower Walk

Saturday 10:00 a.m. - Noon
(Families) Join us as we walk the awesome trails of Rockwoods in search of spring wildflowers. (Reservations begin April 15.)

27 The Roach Motel

Thursday 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
(Families) Cockroach. The very mention of its name makes you shiver, doesn't it? In this program, we will discover why cockroaches are one of the oldest and most successful beings on Earth. (Reservations begin March 28.)

BUSCH AREA

For reservations, call (636) 441-4554

6 Wetlands For Kids

Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
(Families) Identify duck species in the "Duckwing Maze," crawl through a beaver lodge, learn what lives in the water. Learn how to call a duck, practice your skills at the shooting range, see and touch live wetland creatures, watch the Labrador retrievers at work, create a wetland scene at the art station and much more! (No reservations necessary.)

7 Discovery Table Missouri Fishes

Sunday 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
(All Ages) Come learn about Missouri's wide variety of fish. (No reservations necessary.)

7 Making Birdhouses Naturally

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
(All Ages) Create your own birdhouse out of a gourd and take home your own starter gourd plant. (Reservations begin March 22.)

10 Scat, Poop & Droppings

Wednesday 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
(Ages 3-6) Did you know every animal poops? From beetles to buffalo, we all do. Come learn about poop! (Reservations begin March 27.)

12 Walk thru the Wildflowers

Friday 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
(Ages 7-12) Learn to use a field guide and identify wildflowers while walking in the woods. (Reservations begin March 29.)

13 Scout Discovery Table Careers

Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
(Juniors & Bears) Learn about conservation careers while working on badge activities. Bears: Sharing Your World With Wildlife (Achievement #5c,d), Juniors: Let's Get Outdoors: Your Outdoor Surroundings #7. (No reservations necessary.)

13 Basics of Fishing

Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
(Ages 7-12) Learn how to set up a fishing pole, practice casting and then catch some fish! Equipment and bait provided. (Reservations begin March 29.)

17 Wild about Wildflowers

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. - Noon
(Ages 3-6) Make your own wildflower guide, then join us in a walk to use them. (Reservations begin April 3.)

20 The Hidden Beauty of the Woods

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
(All Ages) Discover the many wildflowers blooming in the woods, learn to identify them and discover some of their uses. (Reservations begin April 5.)

22 Let's Read About...

Monday 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. - Noon
(Ages 3-5) Children's books can provide great environmental awareness for young kids. This month we'll read about frogs. (Reservations begin April 8.)

27 Amphibian Night Hike

Saturday 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
(All Ages) Join us for a 2-mile hike at Marais Temps Clair CA and learn to identify the calls of Missouri's frogs and toads. (Reservations begin April 12.)

28 Discovery Table Hummingbirds

Sunday 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
(All Ages) Come discover hummingbirds. (No reservations necessary.)

POWDER VALLEY

For reservations, call (314) 301-1500

1&15 Lewis & Clark Expedition

Monday 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
(Adults) Travel the Lewis & Clark Trail vicariously with a volunteer naturalist. (Reservations begin March 19 and April 2, respectively.)

2 Springtime For The Birds!

Tuesday 10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
(Ages 3-6) Come learn about your backyard birds. We'll make a wonderful springtime bird feeder, too! (Reservations begin March 19.)

6&20 Identification of Common Missouri Trees

Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
(Adults) Walk a trail & identify our common trees with their uses. (Reservations begin March 26 and April 9, respectively.)

6 Scout Discovery Table

Endangered Species

Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
(All Ages) Discover many facts about extinct, endangered and rare species. Earn parts of your Try-Its or badges-Brownies Try-It: What's Out There: Eco-explorer #5; Juniors: Let's Get Outdoors: Wildlife #6; Bear Cubs: Sharing Your World With Wildlife: Achievement #5e. (No reservations necessary.)

7 Canoeing For Beginners

Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Noon
(Ages 13 & up) Learn to read a river and proper canoeing techniques. This is a dry-land course. (Reservations begin March 26.)

8 All About Eggs

Monday 10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. & 1:00 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.
(Ages 3-6) Which animals lay eggs and are all eggs alike? Let's learn the answers. (Reservations begin March 26.)

9 Homeschool Programs

Feelin' Froggy

Tuesday 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
(Ages 3-6) How do frogs grow? (Reservations begin March 26.)

Be Hoppy!

Tuesday 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
(Ages 7-12) How are frogs different from other animals? (Reservations begin March 26.)

10 Haiku Hike

Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
(Ages 10 & up) Open up your senses to the wonders of Spring and compose your own haiku poem. (Reservations begin March 27.)

11 Let's Make A Nature Book

Thursday 10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
(Ages 3-6) Join us for a class on beginning journaling! We'll make a great book to take home. (Reservations begin March 28.)

14 Snakes In Your Backyard

Sunday 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
(Ages 10 & up) Learn to identify Missouri snakes. Observe some live non-venomous species. (Reservations begin April 2.)

19 Lewis and Clark Campfire

Friday 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
(All Ages) Join us as we tell tales of the adventures of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. (Reservations begin April 5.)

20 Emmenegger Hike

Saturday 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
(Ages 7 & up) Walk the Emmenegger trails and identify the wildflowers in bloom. Meet at the Emmy parking lot next to the pedestrian bridge. (Reservations begin April 9.)

25 Rocking Chair Story Time

Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.
(All Ages) Enjoy a fun-packed time of hearing stories, using puppets and experiencing surprises galore! (No reservations necessary.)

28 Emmenegger Hike

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
(Ages 7 & up) Walk the Emmenegger trails and identify the wildflowers in bloom. Meet at the Emmy parking lot by the pedestrian bridge. (Reservations begin April 16.)